

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP RO EEWT SHUM (VANIK, CHARLES A.) OVIP (CEAUSESCU,
NICOLAE)
SUBJECT: CODEL VANIK: MARCH 31 CALLS ON ANDRIE AND BURTICA

1. SUMMARY: IN OBVOIUSE GOR EFFORT TO GIVE CODEL VANIK
TOP TREATMENT DURING ONE-DAY VISIT MARCH 31, HE WAS
RECEIVED BY CEAUSESCU, FONMIN STEFAN ANDREI AND MINFONTRADE
CORNEL BURTICA AND LUNCHEON WITH CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR
VASILE PUNGAN. TALKS WITH CEAUSESCU AND FRONT-PAGE
APRIL 1
SCINTEIA REPORT FOCUSSED ON CEAUSESCU VISIT REPORTED SEPTEL.
MEETINGS WITH ANDREI AND BURTICA CONCENTRATED ON MFN-EMIGRATION
NEXUS AND HUNGARIAN MINORITY. END SUMMARY.

2. GOR PULLED OUT ALL STPOS TO MAKE CODEL VANIK'S BRIEF
MARCH 31 WORKING VISIT FULL SUCCESS. CODEL RECEIVED FORTY
MINUTES AFTER 0820 ARRIVAL BY FOREIGN MINISTER STEFAN ANDREI
(FORTH-FIVE MINUTES) AND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER CORNEL
BURTICA (HALF HOUR), AND CEAUSESCU WENT DIRECTLY FROM MAJOR
SPEECH AT MEETING OF COUNTY FIRST SECRETARIES TO HOUR-AND-
HALF MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN. FOLLOWING JLUNCHEON HOSTED
BY CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR VASILE PUNGAN, MEETINGS WITH
GAN PRESIDENT GIOSAN AND ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DID NOT PROVE
POSSIBLE DUE TO 1750 DEPARTURE FOR BELGRADE. CONTEXT FOR
ROMANIANS WAS CLEARLY CEAUSESCU VISIT TO U.S., WHICH PROVIDED
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FOCUS IN TALK WITH CEAUSESCU AND APRIL 1 FRONG-PAGE SCINTEIA
ACCOUNT REPORTED SEPTEL. HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETINGS WITH ANDREI
AND PUNGAN FOLLOW; MEMCONS WILL FOLLOW.

3. TALK WITH ANDREI FOCUSSED ON MFN-EMIGRATION ISSUES AND
HUNGARIAN MINORITY.

4. ON MFN, CODEL SAID SINGLE-YEAR RENEWAL ESSENTIAL THIS YEAR BECAUSE THERE IS NO TIME TO CHANGE PROCEDURES, ESPECIALLY IN ELECTION YEAR, BUT HE HOPED CHANGE IN LAW PERMITTING COMMITTEE DECISION ON BETTER HANDLING OF RENEWAL WOULD BE POSSIBLE NEXT YEAR.

5. ON EMIGRATION, CODEL COMPLAINED OF FLUCTUATIONS IN DEPARTURE RATES APPARENTLY KEYED TO RENEWAL TIMETABLE, WHICH MAKE IT HARD TO ELIMINATE REVIEW, AND OF PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES APPLICANTS MUST FACE.

6. ON EMIGRATION, ANDREI SAID EMIGRATION IS POLITICAL ISSUE WHICH GOR SEEKS TO SOLVE IN HUMANITARIAN FASHION. IT HAD NOT WAITED FOR JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT TO PERMIT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JEWS TO EMIGRATE, AND 336 RPT 336 OF 339 RPT 339 APPLICATIONS FOR EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL IN 1978 HAVE BEEN APPROVED. ROMANIAN ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ISREAL--HE MENTIONED VISITS BY PERES, SHEMTOV AND DAYAN THIS YEAR--AND ISREAL HAS PROBLEMS MORE SERIOUS THAN SMALL NUMBERS NOW SEEKING TO EMIGRATE FROM ROMANIA.

7. ON HUNGARIAN MINORITY, CODEL SAID HE RECOGNIZED GOR CONCERNS RE HUNGARIAN-AMERICANS IN U.S. AND POSSIBILITY OF DEMONSTRATIONS DURING CEAUSESCU VISIT, BUT NUMBERS WOULD BE SMALL, DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON COUNTRY, AND NO MORE EFFECT ON VISIT THAN SIMILAR MANIFESTATIONS DURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TITO VISIT.

8. ANDREI ACKNOWLEDGED PROBLEM OF HUNGARIANS IN ROMANIA, BUT LABELLED COMPLAINERS REACTIONARIES BECAUSE THEY ARE BASICALLY CRITICIZING GOR POLICY OF DEVELOPING INDUSTRY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. RE COMPLAINTS ABOUT INSTRUCTION IN HUNGARIAN, ANDREI SAID GOR DOES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENCOURAGE IT, BUT BELIEVES ALL CITIZENS SHOULD SPEAK ROMANIAN IN ORDER TO SHARE EQUALLY IN OPPORTUNITIES OF COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT, AND CANNOT CREATE UNIVERSITY FACULTIES IN ALL FIELDS (E.G. ELECTRONICS AND AVIATION CONSTRUCTION) IN NATIONAL LANGUAGES.

9. AGITATION BY HUNGARIAN EMIGRANTS AND HUNGARIANS IN ROMANIA IS "FED FROM THE OUTSIDE," ANDREI WENT ON. IT IS VERY HARD FOR HIM TO UNDERSTAND HOW HUNGARIANS IN U.S. CAN EVEN RAISE TERRITORIAL ASPECTS OF TRANSYLVANIAN QUESTION. CODEL REPLIED EMPHATICALLY THAT U.S. IS IN NO WAY INVOLVED IN TERRITORIAL ASPECTS, BUT IS CONCERNED SOLELY ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEOPLES' ABILITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES WITHIN OWN CULTURE. U.S. IS NOT INVOLVED IN ANY OF NUMEROUS EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS. ANDREI ACKNOWLEDGED USG DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH

TERRITORIAL QUESTION.

10. TALK WITH BURTICA FOCUSED ON MFN-EMIGRATION NEXUS, AGAIN,
AND WITH GOR ECONOMIC HOPES.

11. ON MFN, CODEL SAID HE WAS HOPEFUL 1979 WOULD SEE CHANGES
PROVIDING FOR SYSTEM EXTENDING PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF MFN
TREATMENT, POSSIBLY IN FORM OF LIMITING DISCUSSION TO CON-
GRESSIONAL COMMITTEES RATHER THAN FULL CONGRESS, TO BE UNDER-
TAKEN ONLY IF COMMITTEES DECIDED IT IN LIGHT OF EMIGRATION
PERFORMANCE. PRESIDENT MUST RECOMMEND ANY CHANGE IN ROMANIA'S
MFN STATUS TO CONGRESS, AND HE URGED THAT CEAUSESCU POINT
THIS OUT IN WASHINGTON TALKS. HE DID NOT BELIEVE REQUIREMENTS
ARE IRRECONCILABLE, AND IF LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE AGREED,
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SEVERAL LARGE INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES MIGHT WELL
DEVELOP. CODEL ALSO TOUCHED ON COMPENSATION CASES, GSP
AND ROMANIAN PETROLEUM EXPORTS TO U.S.

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12. IN RESPONSE, BURTICA NOTED WITH SATISFACTION SUBSTANTIAL
INCREASE IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS OVER PAST YEARS WITH SATIS-
FACTION AND WORK UNDERWAY BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AGGREY AND GOR
OFFICIALS TO EXPAND THEM. ON OCCASION OF CEAUSESCU VISIT,
HE WENT ON, GOR WILL BE DISCUSSING ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN
GENERAL, PARTICULARLY WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING LONG-TERM ARR-
ANGEMENTS AND CONTRACTS ON BOTH SIDE TO ENHANCE STABILITY AND
GUARANTEE SUPPLIES. TRADE AGREEMENT SHOULD REFLECT REAL SUBSTAN-

CES RATHER THAN MERELY INTENTIONS, AND HE HOPED CONGRESS WOULD SUPPORT EXTENSION. MULTI-YEAR MFN WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO GOR, SINCE ANNUAL HEARINGS GIVE RISE TO REMARKS BY POLITICAL OPPONENTS WHICH CONSTITUTE POINTS OF PRESSURE. HE SKETCHED OUT GOR APPROACH TO JEWISH EMIGRATION. ON GSP/COMPENSATION, AMBASSADOR AGGREY'S LETTER HAD BEEN SENT TO FINANCE MINISTER. BURTICA CLOSED WITH OBLIQUE REFERENCES TO EXPORT LICENSING PROBLEMS AND FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY.

13. AT CONSLUSION OF MEETING WITH ANDREI, FONMIN EXPRESSED HOPE CEAUSESCU'S VISIT WILL GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO DEVELOPMENT OF ROMANIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS. GOR WILL APPROACH EMIGRATION ISSUES IN HUMANITARIAN FASHION. HOWEVER, PACE OF EMIGRATON DOES NOT DEPEND ON CIRCUMSTANCES: ROMANIAN POLICY CANNOT BE BASED ON FORCE, EITHER ECONOMIC OR MILITARY, AND MUST THEREFORE BE BASED ON PRINCIPLE.

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